# VENONA

## ~~TOP SECRET~~

USSR

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CIPHERS FOR TWO AGENTS TO BE MODELLED ON THAT USED BY "ALBIN" (1941)

From: MOSCOW

To:    STOCKHOLM

No:    939                                13 Oct. 41

To AKASTO[i].

    The ciphers for the two agents[ii] are made up on the principle of "ALBIN's [AL'BIN]"[iii] cipher: the primary encrypted text is in Swedish using 26 letters and two punctuation marks.  The eight mononome letters are ADINORST.

    First cipher[a]: The key[b] starts at the second letter in the line from which the word for generating the number allocator [ChISLOVOJ RASPREDELITEL'][c] is taken.  The first indicator is added to the fifth group from the beginning and to the same group multiplied by nine[d].  It is put at the seventh position from the beginning.  The second indicator [is added][e] to the sixth group from the end and to the same group multiplied by nine.  It is put at the seventh position from the end.  The service group[f] is added to the third group from the end and put at the end of the telegram.

    Second cipher: The key starts at the third letter of the line from which the word for generating the number allocator is taken.  The first indicator is added to the first group from the beginning and to the second [group from the beginning][e] multiplied by three[.]  It is put at the fifth position from the beginning.  The second indicator is added to the last group and to the penulti-mate [group][e] multiplied by three.  It is put at the sixth position from the

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[Continued overleaf]

end.    The service group[f] is added to the second group from the end and put at the end of the telegram.

The last two digits of the number allocator are used for the dinome beginners of the letters in the mononome-dinome table.

Key novel [KNIGA][g] [1 group unrecovered]: the first half of the book is ours, the second half is the agents'.

Send practice telegram with the novels.    Telegraph if anything is not clear.

No. 11923                                          LANOV[iv]

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Notes:  [a]  i.e. for the first agent.

[b]

[c]  This presumably refers to the numbering of the columns in the table used for converting the letters of the novel into key digits.

[d]  To make sense this multiplication, and the others that follow must be non-carrying.

[e]  Inserted by translator.

[f]  Service group [SLUZHEBNAYa GRUPPA]; generally used of a group containing external message data, such as date and group count.

[g]  KNIGA: literally "book"; "novel" is the cryptological term for a book of any description used for generating key.

Comments:  [i]  AKASTO : Col. N. I. NIKITUShEV, Soviet Military Attaché in STOCKHOLM.

[ii]  Two agents: not identified.

[iii]  ALBIN : Unidentified cover-name.  See also STOCKHOLM's No. 873 of 8th May, 1943 (3/NBF/T1688).

[iv]  LANOV : Col. BALTENKO of the Special Communications Division of the GRU.